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ELEVENTH REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

MINN. HIST. SOC. 6527.

American Printing House for the Blind

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,

AND TO THE

GOVERNORS OF THE STATES OF THE UNION, ETC.

FOR THE YEAR 1878.

PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE:

PRINTED BY JOHN P. MORTON & COMPANY, 156 AND 158 WEST MAIN STREET.

1878.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JAMES B. McCREARY, GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY:

Honored Sir—In order to present a general summary of the work of the American Printing House for the Blind, not only during the past year but also during the past eight years, the following abstract of our work has been prepared. The first table shows the number of books sold at cost since 1871 and what institutions have received them. The second table shows the number of books distributed in each year in return for contributions received from the various states. As some of the Eastern States have purchased from the Pennsylvania branch of the American Printing House for the Blind, the figures in detail may not always come up to the number of books purchased by those institutions.

TABLE I.—Abstract of Books Sold.

	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	Total.
Alabama Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind...					57				57
Arkansas Institution for the Blind.....	28		8	2	70	26	15	20	169
California Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind...				17	57	1	5	16	96
Georgia Academy for the Blind.....	19			34	22	6			81
Illinois Institution for the Blind.....			26		36	136	135		333
Indiana Institution for the Blind.....	26		28	154	159	26	33	18	444
Iowa College for the Blind.....				24		3	19		46
Kansas State Blind Asylum.....				25	3	9			37
Carried forward.....	73		62	256	404	207	207	54	1,265

2D 57 Basement col. v. 11 ser. VII.

	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	Total.
Brought forward.....	73	.....	62	256	404	207	207	54	1,263
Louisiana Inst. for the Blind.....			4	20	.....	.....	6	8	38
Maryland Inst. for the Blind.....			2	91	6	46	18	20	183
Perkins Inst. for the Blind (Mass.).....			20	34	8	80	62	50	254
Michigan Inst. for the Blind.....							6	.....	6
Minnesota Inst. for the Blind.....		10	.....	9	27	10	17	19	92
Missouri Inst. for the Blind.....			2	59	23	37	.....	.....	121
Nebraska Inst. for the Blind.....						6	17	62	85
New York State Inst. for the Blind..	24	.....	20	42	42	30	.....	6	164
New York City Inst. for the Blind...				100	50	200	100	400	850
North Carolina Inst. for the Blind...				6	.....	59	15	29	109
Ohio Inst. for the Blind.....		24	1	204	84	66	17	112	408
Oregon Inst. for the Blind.....				3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
South Carolina Inst. for the Blind...	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	4
Tennessee School for the Blind.....						22	4	37	63
Texas Inst. for the Blind.....					9	57	16	14	96
{ Virginia Inst. for the Deaf and }			12	18	.....	10	18	15	73
{ Dumb and Blind..... }									
{ West Virginia Inst. for the Deaf }			2	.....	.....	8	15	8	33
{ and Dumb and Blind..... }									
Wisconsin Inst. for the Blind.....	48	.....	.....	155	40	126	.....	85	454
FOREIGN.									
Ontario Inst. for the Blind (Can.)...		24	.....	48	44	18	15	198	347
British Museum (London, Eng.).....				17	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
{ Royal Normal College for the }				98	.....	.....	.....	.....	98
{ Blind (Eng.)..... }									
Nova Scotia Inst. for the Blind.....					6	.....	.....	.....	6
{ Worcester College for the Blind }							12	.....	12
{ (Worcester, Eng.)..... }									
Total.....	148	58	125	1,160	743	982	556	1,117	4,928

TABLE II.—Abstract of Books Distributed in Return for State Contributions.

	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	Total.
Illinois Institution for the Blind.....	61	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	61
Indiana Institution for the Blind.....	4	12	.....	.....	.....	25	.....	.....	.....	41
Kentucky Institution for the Blind.....	360	439	658	285	450	510	515	463	342	4,022
Mississippi Institution for the Blind...	94	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	45	56	.....	222
Ohio Institution for the Blind.....	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
Pennsylvania Institution for the }	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
{ Blind (including New Jersey and }	.....	.....	78	479	516	300	315	260	196	2,144
Delaware..... }	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	567	451	736	764	966	862	875	779	538	6,538

Making a total since 1870 of 11,466 books distributed. In addition to this there has been a large amount of alphabet-sheets, tables, improved writing-guides, spelling-frames, raised and dissected maps, and original educational appliances of various kinds that have been distributed among the schools for the blind in the United States.

A copy of each of the books named in the list of publications given in the appendix has been deposited in the Congressional Library at Washington, D. C.

The expense of this great work has been mainly borne by Kentucky; though, as may be seen above, every institution for the

blind in the United States has to a greater or less extent, according to its means, profited by the work.

How strong the desire is among all in the United States interested in the education of the blind to have every state receive advantages equal to those enjoyed by the blind of Kentucky, may be inferred from the fact that at two successive conventions of the teachers of the blind, one held in Philadelphia in 1876, and the following held in Columbus in 1878, a unanimous wish was expressed for the national endowment of the American Printing House for the Blind. A committee of five superintendents from the state institutions in Louisville, Baltimore, New York City, Philadelphia, and Macon were appointed at the first-named convention to prepare a memorial to Congress and a bill embodying the wishes of the instructors of the blind in the United States. The memorial was presented to the forty-fourth Congress at its short session by the Hon. Henry Watterson, but the bill was not reached. The bill, entitled "A bill to promote the education of the blind," was presented to the forty-fifth Congress by the Hon. Albert S. Willis. It was referred to the House committee on education and labor, and after being thoroughly discussed in committee was approved and reported back to the House with the recommendation of the committee that it should pass. It passed the House almost unanimously, and it remains to be acted upon by the Senate.

At the convention of instructors of the blind held at Columbus last August, the committee of five superintendents above mentioned reported their action, and, by a unanimous vote, the committee was continued; and resolutions were unanimously adopted urging upon all the friends of the blind to do what they could to have the bill, as passed by the House of Representatives, become a law. The text of the bill is given as an appendix to this report. It was submitted to every institution for the blind in the United States, and was unanimously approved. Representatives of two out of the twenty-nine institutions for the education of the blind in the United States were for a time unwilling to support the bill unless amended, but at the convention at Columbus in August, 1878, these publicly withdrew their opposition.

The only real opposition to the bill came from a certain S. P. Ruggles, a citizen of Boston, to whom a bitter personal hostility to the late Dr. S. G. Howe, the founder of the school for the blind at Boston, has given an unenviable notoriety. His magnificent promises for many years interested the friends of the blind and

delayed concert of action among them; many of them expecting the joyful fruition of these promises. Committee after committee, appointed at the request of Mr. Ruggles, by the American Association of Instructors of the Blind, which comprises representatives from every institution for the blind in America, waited upon him year after year with hopes deferred, till at last, after five years had shown their labor vain, the association unanimously recommended him to try and find others who perhaps might carry out his schemes. This gentleman, pretending to be a friend to the blind, spent some time in Washington last year doing his best with individual members of Congress and before the House committee to defeat a bill that had received the unanimous approval of all the teachers of the blind in this country, and whose passage is earnestly prayed for by every devout blind person in the world who knows of its purpose. When it was generally understood that Mr. Ruggles was never a teacher of the blind, had not been connected with an institution for the blind for thirty years, and in no respect was empowered to represent them, his opposition had little avail even among those ignorant of his real character.

National aid has repeatedly been given even to local institutions for education; and three institutions for the education of the deaf and dumb have received aid from the government.

In respect to the claims of the blind, who have heretofore been ignored by the nation, and who are the only defective class utterly cut off by their affliction from receiving any benefit from the general educational benefactions of the government, and who yet of all the defective classes give the most hopeful and satisfactory returns for all efforts made in their behalf, it would seem that both by expediency and precedent, Congress has the right to encourage the education of the blind by special appropriation.

Those who have made the education of the blind their life-long business, those whose hearts and minds have led them to believe that the crowning glory of our Christian civilization is the wise attempt to make independent and useful citizens out of those who must, without help, sink into pauperism, believe that national aid, which the cause of the education of the blind is important enough to deserve, can come in no better way than through the endowment of an institution to print embossed books and furnish tangible apparatus for their instruction. The business is one that offers no inducement to private enterprise, for there can be no hope of profit in its undertaking. It is one in which every state that maintains a

school for the blind is interested, but which it is not fair should be carried on at the expense of one or two states alone.

The American Printing House for the Blind has been so maintained. It has been in operation for years; it is equipped with type, presses, steam-engine, stereotype foundry, and a bindery. It has introduced many new methods in printing, stereotyping, and binding books for the blind, and in the manufacture of novel apparatus for their instruction, that have been of the most practical benefit. A list of its publications can be found in the appendix to this report. To what extent they have been used by the institutions for the blind in the United States can be seen in the foregoing tables. Kentucky is doubtless reaping in the increased efficiency of its school for the blind an ample return for what it is spending to maintain the Printing House. The proposed subsidy from Congress will, at the least possible expense, enable all the other states to receive equal benefits with Kentucky, and the burden will be equally borne.

A pleasing recognition of the merits of the work of the Printing House has been received from Paris. Hon. J. D. Philbrick, United States commissioner to the international exhibition at Paris, France, having charge of the department of education, addressed an urgent request to the trustees of the American Printing House for the Blind to send, under his charge, a display of its publications to the exhibition, accompanying his letter with a complimentary allusion to its display at Philadelphia. In compliance with this request a selection of publications was made, and to these was added by John P. Morton & Co. a copy of one of the raised and dissected maps of the United States made by them from the model furnished by the American Printing House for the Blind. These were all forwarded and duly exhibited, and received a medal for their special merit. The Italian commissioner desired to secure the exhibit for the Royal Museum at Turin, and wrote a letter showing a high appreciation of the value and significance of the exhibit. But the trustees felt that justice and gratitude would allow them to make but one disposition of it; and accordingly the entire exhibit was presented to the "Institution Nationale des Jeunes Aveugles de Paris," the first school for the blind ever founded in a Christian land, and whose founder, the illustrious Abbé Haüy, gave to the world the first book ever printed in embossed letters for the blind.

Embossed books form the corner-stone of the education of the blind. It is difficult to overestimate their importance in the de-

velopment of an institution for the education of the blind. The pre-eminence gained, and maintained now for many years by our country in this department of education, is unquestionably due to the progress made here in the art of printing for the blind. The heavy years of doubtful experiment and expense have been endured, and a glorious issue wrought from them mainly through the rare earnestness, persistency, and ability of one man, the late Dr. Samuel G. Howe. Through his efforts the Bible was first given to the blind, and the books printed at Boston are still in use in many of the schools for the blind. It was through his constant and almost importunate solicitations that the expenses of printing for the blind were met, yet all his efforts were unavailing to keep his press in constant motion; sometimes for years its wheels were at rest. It was to supply the need for embossed books for the blind that the American Printing House for the Blind was established. From its first organization in 1858 the purpose of its trustees has been to make it national in its character, and to manage it in the interests of all the blind. The advice of the various schools for the blind in reference to the particular books to be printed has been constantly sought, and followed whenever given. Its trustees have no other motive to subserve than to promote in the greatest possible degree the education of the blind. Some of them have been identified with this work for thirty-six years, and, knowing that in this new field that has lain fallow in this country till within fifty years, and was entered in Europe in 1784, there would be much honest difference of opinion concerning the kind of print and apparatus most advantageously to be used, have looked upon their work mainly as experimental, and have been and are always ready to further the interests of the blind by following the suggestions of those engaged in the practical work of teaching them, by supplying each with what he considered the best adapted for his school. The American Printing House for the Blind has printed in five different kinds of type, manufactures three varieties of writing-guides, is committed to no special system, and will try any experiment that promises to result well for the blind. It is upon this basis alone, which its works have proved, that it has asked and obtained the confidence of all engaged in the work of educating the blind.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. F. BULLOCK,

President American Printing House for the Blind.

APPENDIX.

LIST OF BOOKS PUBLISHED AND FOR SALE BY THE
AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND,
LOUISVILLE, KY.

Multiplication Tables, by the 100,	\$2 00
Alphabet sheets, by the 100,	50
New York Point Alphabet sheets, by the 100,	1 00
Writing cards, by the 100,	8 00
Dictionary of Musical Terms,	3 00
Life and Beauties of Shakspeare,	3 00
Etymology—a class-book,	3 25
Select Hymns,	2 50
Fables for Children,	1 50
Gay's Fables,	1 50
Virgil's <i>Æneid</i> (first six books, Latin),	3 50
Midsummer Night's Dream,	2 00
Macbeth,	2 00
King Lear,	2 50
Arithmetical Examples,	3 50
Washington Before the Revolution,	3 50
Guyot's Physical Geography,	4 00
Robinson Crusoe, 3 vols.,	10 50
Selections for Declamation,	3 50
R. H. Proctor's Wonders of the Firmament,	3 50
A Primer and the first three of Butler's Readers, in eight parts, each 50 cents,	4 00
Colburn's Mental Arithmetic, 2 vols.,	3 00
Simple Susan and Lazy Lawrence,	3 00
Guide to the Dissected Map of Europe and the United States,	2 00
New York Point System of Musical Notation,	1 00
Rab and His Friends (New York Point),	1 00
Rill from the Town Pump, by Nathaniel Hawthorne (N. Y. Point),	75
Feathertop, by Nathaniel Hawthorne (New York Point),	1 25
Snow-bound, by John G. Whittier (New York Point),	1 00
Woodman's Nannette,	1 00
Vision of Sir Launfal, and Pied Piper,	25
Politics for Young Americans, by Charles Nordhoff,	3 50
A Book of Behavior,	1 50

Constitution of the United States,	\$0 75
Lady of the Lake,	2 50
Hooker's Child's Book of Nature, Part I. Plants,	2 50
Hooker's Child's Book of Nature, Part II. Animals,	3 00
Marx's Universal School of Music, 2 vols.,	10 00
Spelling Book,	75
History of English Literature, by Rev. Stopford Brooke,	3 50
Bütler's English Grammar, 2 vols.,	5 00
Prize Essays, by blind authors, upon the Employments of the Blind,	1 50
Boone and other Pioneers,	3 00
Theory of Sound in Relation to Music, by Prof. Blaserna. Interna- tional Scientific Series,	3 50
Primer in New York Point,	15
Fancies of Child Life,	1 50
Pieces for Recitation for the Primary Class,	75
Roman Catholic Catechism,	1 00
Notes on Light and Electricity, by John Tyndall,	3 50
Wonder Book, by Nathaniel Hawthorne,	3 25
Agassiz and Gould's Principles of Zoology,	3 50
Handbook of Natural Philosophy (Rolfe & Gillet), in press,	
Dissected Map of Physical Geography of the United States, 4x5 feet,	60 00
Dissected Map of Physical Geography of Europe, 4 feet square,	50 00
Hypsometric Map of the United States, from government surveys (dissected), 18x24 inches, showing elevations from 500 to 12,000 feet, in separate layers,	20 00
Compend of American Literature, revised and enlarged, by William Chapin, in press,	

MUSIC IN NEW YORK POINT MUSICAL NOTATION.

Schmitt's Method for the Piano,	\$4 00
Impromptu No. 3, Op. 142. Schubert,	60
Mendelssohn's Songs Without Words, Op. 19, No. 4,	10
Mendelssohn's Spring Song, No. 30,	25
Cramer's Studies, Nos. 1 and 2,	20
At the Mill Stream. Tedesco,	20
Marche Funebre d'une Marionette. Gounod,	20

Dissected Maps of Physical Geography of Asia and North America ready for copying in style similar to maps of the United States and Europe, if ten subscribers can be obtained. Other model maps in preparation.

MEMORIAL PRESENTED TO CONGRESS.

TO THE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN
CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

We, the undersigned, trustees, superintendents, and teachers of the various state institutions for the blind in the United States, representing the interests of over thirty thousand blind persons, respectfully and earnestly petition your honorable body to take under your wise consideration the present condition and needs of the American system of the education of the blind.

In 1833, simultaneously in three of the states of the Union, the education of the blind was formally begun in America. Then it was an experiment; it has been advanced since then with the spirit and zeal of our people, until now its practical usefulness is thoroughly established.

From the outset the great need of embossed books was keenly felt, and through the untiring efforts of a few philanthropists the entire Bible was printed for the blind, and a few text-books have been slowly added from time to time.

But the manufacture of embossed books is expensive, and the demand is so slight that it affords no inducement to private enterprise to engage in it. As the work of the education of the blind increases, the need is felt more and more keenly for improved appliances and modern text-books.

Heretofore the wants of the blind have been but scantily met by fitful contributions obtained at great trouble and expense. We therefore entreat your honorable body to make some provision by which the great work of providing text-books and standard literature and other educational appliances for the blind may no longer depend upon the remittent charity of the benevolent, or the precarious wisdom of a few local legislatures, but may be permanently carried on in a manner commensurate with the important principles involved.

We make this appeal for a numerous class of the most hopeful of all the defective classes of mankind; relying not only upon your far-seeing wisdom, which has often before extended material aid in other cases to the cause of education, but to your high sense of justice, which we trust will give impartial aid to these our sightless wards, for whom we humbly pray.

COPY OF AN ACT TO

PROMOTE THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 16, 1878,
AND NOW PENDING IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, the Trustees, Superintendents, and Teachers of the various state and public Institutions for the Instruction of the Blind, representing the interests of over thirty thousand blind persons in the United States, have united in a petition to Congress to take into consideration the needs of the blind in the United States; and whereas, the Association of the American Instructors of the Blind, at their session in Philadelphia, in August, 1876, representing twenty-six state and public Institutions for the Instruction of the Blind, have set forth in a series of resolutions that the especial needs of the blind are embossed books and tangible apparatus, and have recommended that if any aid should be given by Congress it would most efficiently come through increasing the means of the American Printing House for the Blind, located in Louisville, Ky.; and whereas, it appears that the Kentucky Legislature in 1858, by an act of special legislation, declared James Guthrie, W. F. Bullock, Theodore S. Bell, Bryce M. Patten, John Milton, H. T. Curd, and A. O. Brannin, and their successors, a body corporate, under the name and style of the Trustees of the American Printing House for the Blind, with the avowed purpose of printing books and making apparatus for the Instruction of the Blind of the United States for general distribution, and for the sake of philanthropy, and with no desire for pecuniary gain; and whereas, the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, New Jersey, and Delaware have made appropriations for the aid of said American Printing House for the Blind, of which, on account of the outbreak of the civil war, only a small part of the money appropriated by the first three named states was ever available; and whereas, by the money from the states of Kentucky, New Jersey, and Delaware a Printing House for the Blind was estab-

lished, and is now supplied with presses, type, stereotype foundry, steam-engine, a well-equipped bindery, and all the appliances necessary for the manufacture of embossed books, and has for the last ten years been manufacturing embossed books superior in every way to any manufactured elsewhere, which have been distributed gratuitously to the blind in the states of Kentucky, New Jersey, and Delaware, by which the blind in those states have been very much benefited; and whereas, it is desirable that the blind of the whole country should be equally benefited, and the intentions of the trustees to establish an educational institution of the most practical beneficence and wisest philanthropy upon a national basis should be accomplished, inasmuch as the Education of the Blind is a subject of national importance; therefore be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

I. That the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, out of money in the United States Treasury not otherwise appropriated, be and hereby is set apart as a perpetual fund for the purpose of aiding the Education of the Blind in the United States of America, through the American Printing House for the Blind.

II. That the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States is hereby directed to hold said sum in trust for the purpose aforesaid. And it shall be his duty, upon the passage of this Act, to invest said sum in United States interest-bearing bonds, bearing interest at four per cent, of the issue of 1870, and upon their maturity to reinvest their proceeds in other United States interest-bearing bonds, and so on forever.

III. That the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States is hereby authorized to pay over, semi-annually, to the Trustees of the American Printing House for the Blind located in Louisville, Kentucky, and chartered in 1858 by the Legislature of Kentucky, upon the requisition of their President, countersigned by their Treasurer, the semi-annual interest upon the said bonds, upon the following conditions: 1st. The income upon the bonds thus held in trust for the education of the blind shall be expended by the Trustees of the American Printing House each year in manufacturing and furnishing embossed books for the blind, and tangible apparatus for their instruction. And the total amount of such books and apparatus so manufactured and furnished by this income, shall each year be dis-

tributed among all the public Institutions for the Education of the Blind in the states and territories of the United States and the District of Columbia, upon the requisition of the Superintendent of each, duly certified by its Board of Trustees. The basis of such distribution shall be the total number of pupils in all the public Institutions for the Education of the Blind, to be authenticated in such manner and as often as the Trustees of the said American Printing House shall require; and each institution shall receive, in books and apparatus, that portion of the total income of said bonds held by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States in trust for the Education of the Blind, as is shown by the ratio between the number of pupils in that Institution for the Education of the Blind, and the total number of pupils in all the public Institutions for the Education of the Blind, which ratio shall be computed upon the first Monday in January of each year. 2d. No part of the income from said bonds shall be expended in the erection or leasing of buildings. 3d. No profit shall be put upon any books or tangible apparatus for the instruction of the blind, manufactured or furnished by the Trustees of said American Printing House for the Blind, located in Louisville, Kentucky, and the price put upon each article so manufactured or furnished, shall be only its actual cost. 4th. The Secretary of the Treasury of the United States shall have the authority to withhold the income arising from said bonds thus set apart for the Education of the Blind of the United States, whenever he shall receive satisfactory proof that the Trustees of said American Printing House for the Blind located in Louisville, Kentucky, are not using the income from these bonds for the benefit of the blind in the public Institutions for the Education of the Blind of the United States. 5th. Before any money be paid to the Treasurer of the American Printing House for the Blind by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, the Treasurer of the American Printing House for the Blind shall execute a bond, with two approved sureties, to the amount of twenty thousand dollars, conditional that the interest received shall be expended according to this law and all amendments thereto, which shall be held by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, and shall be renewed every two years. 6th. The Superintendents of the various public Institutions for the Education of the Blind in the United States shall each, *ex officio*, be a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Printing House for the Blind located in the city of Louisville, Kentucky.

IV. That the Trustees of said American Printing House for the Blind shall annually make to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States a report of the items of their expenditure of the income of said bonds during the year preceding their report, and shall annually furnish him with a voucher from each public Institution for the Education of the Blind, showing that the amount of books and tangible apparatus due has been received.

V. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

